



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

# News Release

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## **Army Corps of Engineers seeks public opinion on national water issues**

FORT WORTH/DALLAS, TX (July 27, 2000) — What do the people of the Southwest think are the most pressing future challenges regarding the nation's water? That's what the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hopes to find out in a full-day workshop intended to gather information on national concerns. The workshop, which will be held at the Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington, TX, will start on August 10 at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and there is no cost for the workshop. All interested members of the public are invited to attend and lend their views regarding national water issues.

Open to anyone, the workshop is not structured like a public meeting in which people stand to read statements. The professionally-facilitated workshop has people discussing water-related issues in small groups. Discussions may center on many critical topics, for example, flooding which continues to threaten communities, a national water highway system unable to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century demands, and a damaged environment in dire need of repair. However, those with statements may post them at the workshop, and include them for the record.

Interested people who cannot attend a workshop but wish to contribute their opinions may do so by logging onto the "Join the Dialogue" website at [www.wrsc.usace.army.mil/iwr/waterchallenges](http://www.wrsc.usace.army.mil/iwr/waterchallenges), or by calling the toll-free number 877-447-6342.

The workshop being held here is one of many across the nation. The Corps refers to the "Join the Dialogue" workshops as "listening sessions."

The information from the session will be combined with data from other sessions across the nation and will be used to refine the national water resources challenges facing the nation, revise the Army Corps of Engineers goals regarding the civil works program, and identify gaps that need attention.

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“All federal agencies have a responsibility to touch base with their customers and stakeholders to ensure wise use of public funds,” said Maj. Gen. Hans A. Van Winkle, the Corps’ Deputy Commanding General for Civil Works. “Our role here is simply to listen to those we serve and find out what’s important to them.”

The mission of the Army Corps of Engineers is to provide quality, responsive engineering service to the Army and the nation. The Corps plans, designs, builds and operates water resources and other civil works projects to provide a variety of benefits to the taxpayer, including flood damage reduction, navigation, environmental restoration, water supply, hydroelectric power and recreation. The Corps also provides military construction for the Army and Air Force and design and construction management support for other federal agencies.

Under the Civil Works program, the Corps operates and maintains almost 300 deep draft harbors, 275 locks, and 12 thousand miles of navigable waterway.